

## Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

## NEWS RELEASE

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## **Bishop Welcomes Angels to Nation's Capital**

East Patchogue Husband and Wife Receive Top Honor from Congressional Coalition on Adoption

Washington, DC — Congressman Tim Bishop yesterday welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Juliette Lacinski and their daughter, Kema-Marie, to the nation's capital as they received the Eighth Annual Angels in Adoption Award from the Congressional Coalition on Adoption. The Lacinski family, who adopted two children, resides in East Patchogue. Kema-Marie is fourteen years old and recently started ninth grade at the Brookhaven Academic Center.

"I am very proud to represent parents like Ed and Juliette, who have brought joy and love to children who might have otherwise grown up alone," Bishop said. "By opening up their home and hearts, the Lacinskis set a shining example for our community and other parents who are thinking about adopting."

Ed and Juliette were called to Congressman Bishop's attention as a result of their advocacy for adopting older children. While many foster parents prefer to adopt infants or young children, the Lacinskis are dedicated to older children who are frequently overlooked.

"I want to thank Congressman Bishop for this great honor," Mrs. Lacinski stated, "It is important to bring attention to the adoption of foster children and to open a dialogue that will make others think about doing the same."

Each member of Congress is offered the opportunity to choose an individual making a difference in the lives of children through adoption or foster care advocacy. The Angels in Adoption campaign raises awareness about adoption and honors those who dedicate their lives to helping children.

\* \* \* PHOTO ATTACHED \* \* \* - Congressman Tim Bishop meets with the winners of the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Angels in Adoption award. From left; The Lacinski family, Kema-Marie, Ed, Juliette, and Shirley.

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